

Dr. WEXLER. Yes.

Mr. MACDONALD. Will they put those stations in by ship or overland?

Dr. WEXLER. They did not talk about anyone putting them in, Mr. Macdonald. These were just designated as desirable spots, but there were no takers. No one suggested taking this task on.

Mr. MACDONALD. They did not volunteer themselves?

Dr. WEXLER. No.

Mr. MACDONALD. There was some suggestion for an icebreaker for that purpose in the Bellinghousen Sea, which I understand is unclaimed territory.

Dr. WEXLER. The icebreaker in operation in the Ross Sea was supposed to have made some traverses in this area. Whether they succeeded in penetrating to the coast, I have not heard.

In addition to these seven coastal stations, the recommendations were made for another interior station at 80 degrees south and 80 degrees west and then four more stations in the interior of east Antarctica.

There were no takers for those stations either. These were considered to be desirable just to fill up the tremendous gaps in Antarctica.

Dr. GOULD. Anyone who says the Russians are not dreamers should listen to what has been said. The U. S. S. R. has established a significant set of stations in Antarctica and reports of their work are that it is excellent. The Soviets have not yet been able to achieve one of their primary objectives of establishing a station at the geographic center of the continent which would be 400 miles from the South Pole on the 90th meridian, but they have approached this region and may be able to get to the Pole of inaccessibility during the next 12 months.

Dr. WEXLER. Now, if I may proceed, in view of the international meeting which took place barely 6 weeks ago and in view of the fact that the Academy had not set up the new Committee on Polar Research under Dr. Gould's chairmanship until the last few months, we have been vigorously trying to draw up a scientific program for Antarctica research after IGY.

Our thinking goes along these lines: that we should have full-fledged programs at the Pole Station and at the Byrd Station.

The Pole Station, as you all know, is located at the geographic South Pole. We have had this very important station and then the station in the center of Marie Byrd Land. Also, we would like to see the Little America Weather Station but because of the possibility that Little America will go out with the ice one of these days, as it eventually must, it was decided not to keep the other scientific programs at Little America, just keep Weather and move it to Kiel Field, which, as you know, is located a few miles farther away from the ocean, and to move the scientific equipment out of Little America. It was once thought that that scientific equipment would be moved to McMurdo Sound, which is the Navy's air facility where you landed and took off.

The CHAIRMAN. As a matter of fact, we recommended that.

Dr. WEXLER. Yes, sir. However, in the last month or two, New Zealand has made up its mind to keep their Scott base going after